

**Amendments to the Specification:**

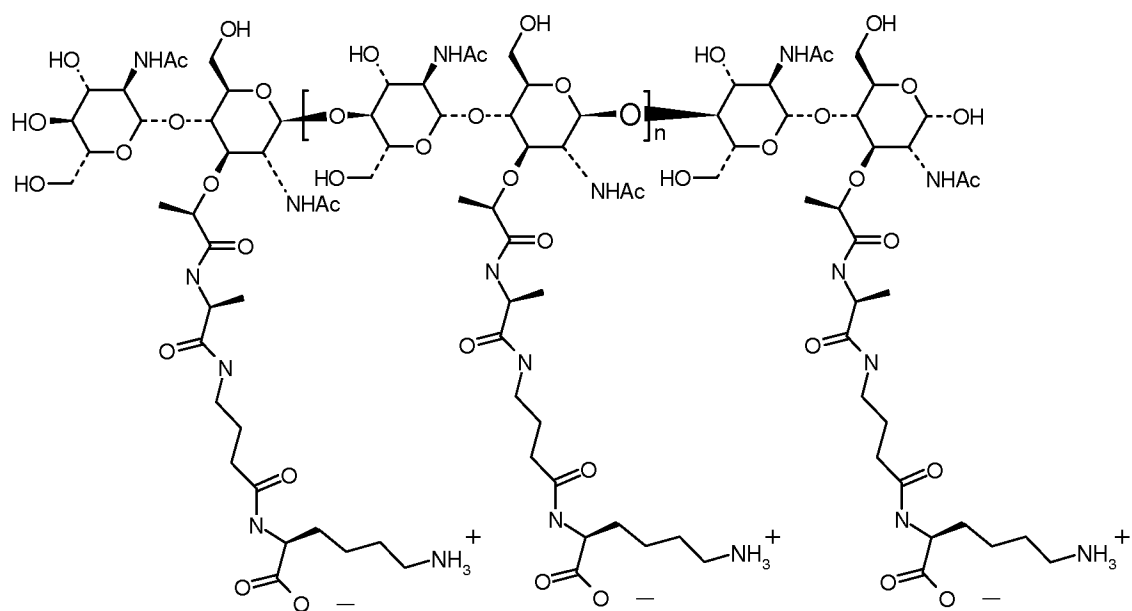
Please replace the Title beginning at page 1, line 1 within the following Title:  
Immunomodulatory Polymeric Antigens for Treating Inflammatory Pathologies

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 14, line 12 within the following amended paragraph:

Natural peptidoglycan in the bacterial cell wall is a single covalently closed macromolecule that precisely defines the shape of a bacterial cell throughout the cell cycle. It is composed of a rigid axis of parallel polymeric peptidoglycan glycan strands wherein the repeat unit is  $\beta$ -[1,4]-linked *N*-acetylglucosaminy- $\beta$ -[1,4]- *N*-acetylmuramylpentapeptide. The glycan strand is helical in shape with about four repeat units per complete turn of the helix. The more flexible pentapeptide axes extend N to C from the lactyl carboxyls of the muramic acid residues. The peptide is generally  $\text{H}_2\text{N-Ala-D-iso-Glu(or iso-Gln)-Lys(or diaminopim-elate, DAP)-D-Ala-D-Ala-COOH}$  (SEQ ID NO:1). The peptides may be crosslinked between Lys(or DAP) from a donor strand to the carbonyl of the penultimate D-Ala of an acceptor strand. Although the diagram shows complete crosslinking for clarity, the actual degree of crosslinking in a living cell varies with genus and is always less than 100%.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 5 within the following amended paragraph:

Accordingly, in one aspect, the present invention provides a synthetic polymeric antigen having the structure shown in Formula I:



**I**

wherein n is an integral in the range of from about 375 to about 75,  
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.